

M.<sup>r</sup> W<sup>m</sup> Smith <sup>64</sup> here equally with B[enjamin?]. S[mith?] in North Carolina — which will be done and the rec<sup>t</sup> remitted by next post to you — *accidents excepted*.

You say Jacob Rhodes<sup>65</sup> is coming on and add this among other plagues, from this I discover you know nothing of my difficulties — *let him come* if you are clear of him I do not care for his Dunns, I can stand them.

I could say much on your hints but prudence directs I should not as I am the only person who can bear the Events of business without general Injury.

Every Exertion will be used to send you enough to pay the Entry takers fees &c. I hope shortly to send you the Judges paper in lieu if you think any of it will answer the purpose.

I am D Sir

Your Ob<sup>t</sup> Servant

David Allison

*John Gray Blount to Richard and James Potter*

Washington March 3.<sup>rd</sup> 1796

Mess.<sup>rs</sup> Rich.<sup>d</sup> & Ja.<sup>s</sup> Potters

Gent.<sup>n</sup> <sup>66</sup>

I have this day rec.<sup>d</sup> a Letter from Cap.<sup>t</sup> Meminger informing me that he has got all his matters respecting Brig Betsey settled and that he has taken a full freight to Norfolk and expects to sail to morrow, He also informs me that he has negociated a set of Bills which I drew on you in favor of M.<sup>r</sup> Thom Turner and drawn on me for considerable other sums which I had given him the power to do in order to extricate the Betsey on the best possible Terms he could and from knowledge

<sup>64</sup> Smith (1762-1840) was a native of South Carolina, and practiced law in York District. He was elected to the United States Senate in 1816 as a Democrat, and served from December, 1816 to March, 1823 and again, 1826-1831. He later moved to Alabama, where he died. He apparently engaged in land speculation with his brother, Benjamin. David Allison to Blount, January 7, 1796, n.14, in this volume; *Biographical Directory of the American Congress 1774-1961: The Continental Congress, September 5, 1774, to October 21, 1788, and the Congress of the United States from the First to the Eighty-Sixth Congress, March 4, 1789, to January 3, 1961, Inclusive* (Washington, D. C.: United States Government Printing Office, Eighty-Fifth Congress, Second Session, House Document No. 442, 1961), 1625, hereinafter cited as *Biographical Directory of Congress*.

<sup>65</sup> An occasional business partner of the Blounts who, as a member of a company of speculators which John Gray Blount formed in 1795, became increasingly reluctant, tried to recover his interest from Allison, and later sued Blount. Introduction; Keith, *Blount Papers*, II, *passim*; David Allison to Blount, April 1, 7, 1796; Jacob Rhodes to Blount, May 6, June 2, 1796; and Edward Jones to Blount, May 6, 1796, in this volume.

<sup>66</sup> From the Letter Book.